

IN THE CLAIMS:

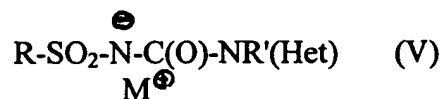
Kindly amend claims 1-8 and 11-16, without prejudice, to read as follows:

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1. (Amended) A combination comprising an anionic agrochemically active compound and a cationic polymer having a main chain, said compound and said polymer electrostatically interacting with each other, wherein at least part of said polymer is constructed of monomer units comprising cationic groups comprising quaternary nitrogen atoms, wherein the percentage of monomer units which do not contain any cationic groups is at most 90% by weight, and the molecular weight of the polymers is $< 10,000$ if the quaternary nitrogen atoms are arranged exclusively outside the main chain of the polymer.

2. (Amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active compound is selected from the group consisting of herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, growth regulators, safeners, molluscicides, acaricides and nematocides.

3. (Amended) The combination as claimed in claim 2, wherein the herbicides are selected from the group consisting of ALS inhibitors, hydroxybenzonitriles, aryloxyalkylcarboxylic acids, (hetero)aryloxyaryloxyalkylcarboxylic acids, HPPDO inhibitors, triazines, and cyclohexanedione oximes, and derivatives thereof.

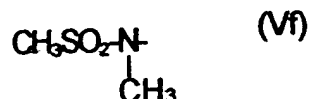
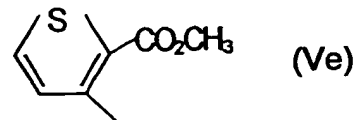
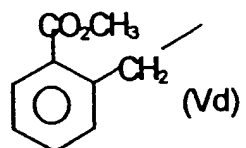
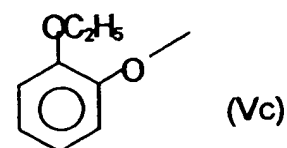
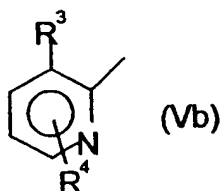
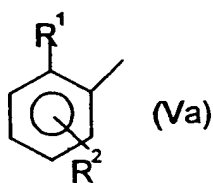
4. (Amended) The combination as claimed in claim 3, wherein the sulfonylureas correspond to the formula (V)



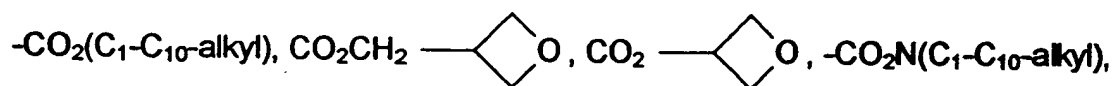
wherein M^{\oplus} is a cation, optionally containing organic substituents,

R' is hydrogen or a (C_1-C_{10}) -alkyl radical,

R is a radical selected from the group consisting of the compounds corresponding to formulae (Va) to (Vf)



wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of

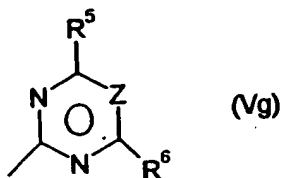


$SO_2(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$, CF_3 , $-O(C_1-C_{10}\text{-alkyl})$, $-OCH_2CH_2Cl$, $CH_2CH_2CF_3$, and halogen,

R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , independently of one another are H, CH_3 , $-OH$, $-O(C_1-C_{10}\text{-alkyl})$, $-NH(C_1-C_{10}\text{-alkyl})$,

$-N(C_1-C_{10}\text{-alkyl})_2$, $NHCHO$, $-NHCO_2(C_1-C_2\text{-alkyl})$, $-CH_2NHSO_2CH_3$, or halogen,

Het is a radical of the formula

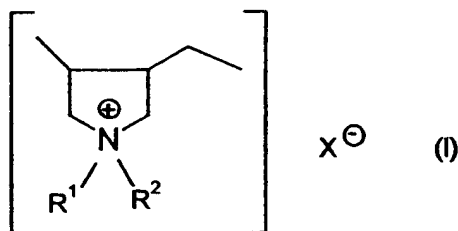


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wherein R⁵, R⁶ independently of one another are halogen, -O(C₁-C₄-alkyl), C₁-C₄-alkyl, -NH(C₁-C₄-alkyl), -N(C₁-C₄-alkyl)₂, -OCH₂CF₃, -OCHCl₂, and
Z is N or a CH group.

5. (Amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer is soluble, dispersible or emulsifiable in water and/or organic solvents, and has an absorption rate or penetration rate of < 50% in 24 h.

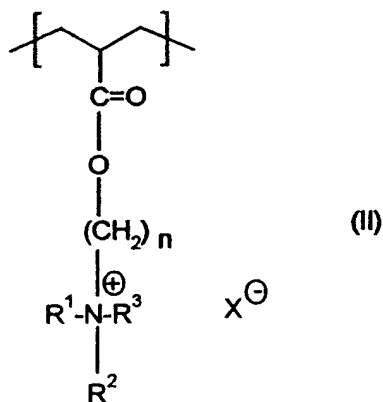
6. (Amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the molecular weight of the polymer is about ≥ 500 and the polymer is employed in a weight ratio to the active compound of from about 0.001:1 to about 1:0.001.

7. (Amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer contains monomer units which are selected from the group consisting of the units of the formula
(I)



in which R^1 and R^2 independently of one another are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear and branched C_1 - C_8 -alkyl groups, linear and branched C_1 - C_5 -alkylol groups, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl groups

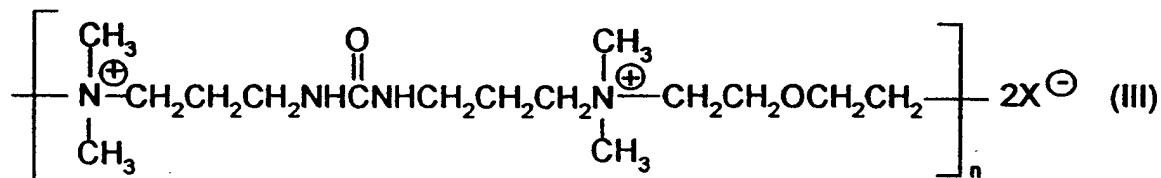
and the units of the formula (II)



in which n is an integer from 1 to 10 and the substituents R^1 to R^3 are independently of one another selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear and branched C_1 - C_8 -alkyl groups, linear and branched C_1 - C_5 -alkylol groups, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl groups,

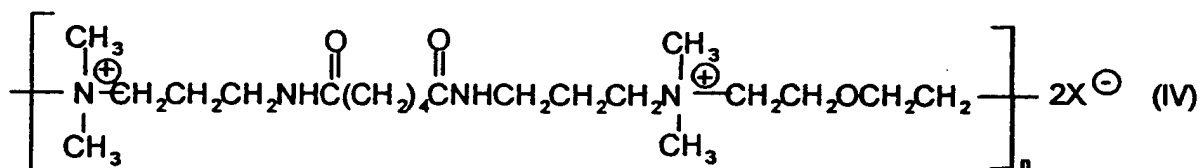
and where X^- is the anion of an acid of organic or inorganic origin.

8. (Amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer is of the formula (III)



in which n is an integer from 3 to 50,

or of the formula (IV) below



in which n is an integer from 10 to 200, and X^- is the anion of an acid of organic or inorganic origin.

11. (Amended Twice) A method for suppressing antagonistic interactions in an agrochemical composition comprising at least two agrochemical compounds, comprising the step of applying to said agrochemical composition a cationic polymer having a main chain, wherein

at least part of said polymer is constructed of monomer units comprising cationic groups optionally comprising quaternary nitrogen atoms, wherein the percentage of monomer units which do not contain any cationic groups is at most 90% by weight, and the molecular weight of the polymers is < 10,000 if the quaternary nitrogen atoms are arranged exclusively outside the main chain of the polymer.

12. (Amended Twice) A method of increasing crop selectivity, comprising the step of applying the combination as claimed in claim 1 to said crop or to an environment within which said crop resides.

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Cont. 13. (Amended Twice) A method for controlling harmful organisms, comprising the step of applying a combination as claimed in claim 1 to said harmful organism or to an environment within which said organism resides.

14. (Amended Twice) A process for preparing a combination as claimed in claim 1, comprising the step of combining the active compound by dissolving, stirring or mixing said active compound with a polymer as claimed in claim 1, and introducing this combination into the formulation comprising other active compounds, adjuvants and additives.

B³ 15. (Amended) A method for controlling harmful organisms, comprising the step of applying a formulation as claimed in claim 9 to said harmful organism or to an environment within which said harmful organism resides.

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16. (Amended) A process for preparing a formulation as claimed in claim 9, comprising the step of combining the active compound by dissolving, stirring or mixing said active compound with a polymer as claimed in claim 1, and introducing this combination into the formulation comprising other active compounds, adjuvants and additives.

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Please add the following new claims:

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-- 17. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the percentage of monomer units which do not contain any cationic groups is at most 50% by weight.

18. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 3, wherein said ALS inhibitors are sulfonylureas, and derivatives thereof.

19. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 3, wherein said hydroxybenzonitriles are selected from the group consisting of bromoxynil and ioxynil, and derivatives thereof.

20. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 3, wherein said aryloxyalkylcarboxylic acids are selected from the group consisting of MCPA, 2,4-D, CMPP, 2,4-DP and 2,4-DB, and derivatives thereof.

21. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 3, wherein said (hetero)aryloxyaryloxyalkylcarboxylic acids are selected from the group consisting of fenoxaprop-p-ethyl, dichlofop-methyl, clodinafop-propargyl and fluazifop, and derivatives thereof.

22. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 3, wherein said HPPDO inhibitors are selected from the group consisting of mesotrione and sulcotrione, and derivatives thereof.

23. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 3, wherein said cyclohexanedione oximes are selected from the group consisting of sethoxidim, clethodim and trialkoxidim, and derivatives thereof.

24. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 2, wherein said growth regulators are selected from the group consisting of indolylacetic acid, indolylbutyric acid and auxins, and derivatives thereof.

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cont.
25. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 2, wherein said safeners are selected from the group consisting of mefenpyr-diethyl and 5,5-biphenyl-2-isoxazoline-3-carboxylic acid, and derivatives thereof.

26. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein M^+ is an alkali metal or an ammonium ion.

27. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 26, wherein M^+ is selected from the group consisting of Na ion, K ion, ammonium ion, tetraalkylammonium ion, tetraalkylolammonium ion and monoalkylammonium ion.

28. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein R' is hydrogen or methyl.
29. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein R¹ is Cl or F.
30. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein R², R³ and R⁴, independently of one another are F, Cl, Br or I.
31. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein R⁵ and R⁶, independently of one another are F or Cl.
32. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 5, wherein the polymer is soluble in polar protic and/or polar aprotic organic solvents and/or water.
33. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 32, wherein the polymer is soluble in water.
34. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 6, wherein the molecular weight of the polymer is from about 1,000 to 1,000,000.
35. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 6, wherein the polymer is employed in a weight ratio to the active compound of from 0.01:1 to about 1:0.01.

36. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 6, wherein the polymer is employed in a weight ratio to the active compound of from 0.1:1 to 1:0.1.

37. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 7, wherein n is from 2 to 5.

38. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 7, wherein X⁻ is a carboxylate, a sulfate, a carbonate, a sulfonate or a halide.

39. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 8, wherein n in formula (III) is 6.

40. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 8, wherein n in formula (IV) is 100.

41. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 8, wherein X⁻ is a carboxylate, a sulfate, a carbonate, a sulfonate or a halide.

42. (New) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said harmful organism is a harmful plant.

43. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said harmful organism is a harmful plant. - -
